

Terwingen rulers had crossed the frozen Danube during the winter and invaded Moesia, the emperor, who was occupied with the Persians, attempted to settle the differences more by giving in than by taking drastic measures. These disturbances may have been related to the persecution of Christians with ATHANARIC's father, AORIC seems to have expired out in 348. War against Romans and persecution of Goths.

Christians, who were considered Roman sympathizers, was renewed during the period of ATHANARIC'S judgeship. In any case, Constantine II extended an "honorable" reception to those who had been driven out (among them ULFILAS) and settled them at NIKOPOLIS-STARA NIKOBA in modern-day Bulgaria.

It was these Roman Goths who accepted Constantine II as their monarch (thiudans), thus equaling the ethnic "monarchic king" with the emperor.

The first persecution of Gothic
 Christians took place in 348, most
 likely after a war with the Romans. Ulfilas
 was among those expelled, and for the remainder
 of his life he bore the honorary title
 "Confessor." Seven years after the
 martyrdom of St. Irena, Rhénia
 and Pina Bishop Goddas saw to it
 that their bones found a safe
 and worthy resting place. These

those monks, who also were executed Catholics,
had resisted all persuasion and threats
from the "prince of the barbarians". And had
remained loyal to their faith. As
punishment, they were drowned in a
river. Placing this in the time of
Athanasius seems more plausible.

348

The first Gothic persecution
of the Christians.